

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) Container comprising a mouth opening and a membrane lid arranged with an attachment zone on the edge of the mouth opening for closing the container, characterized in that the membrane lid consists at the attachment zone over its thickness of plastic.

2. (Original) Container according to claim 1, wherein a center zone surrounded by the attachment zone comprises a metal layer.

3. (Currently Amended) Container according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the bottom and peripheral wall are sheet metal.

4. (Currently Amended) Container according to claim 1 any one of the preceding claims, wherein the attachment zone of the membrane lid is fused to the edge of the mouth opening.

5. (Original) Container according to claim 4, wherein the edge of the mouth opening comprises a plastic.

6. (Currently Amended) Container according to claim 4 or 5, wherein the edge of the mouth opening comprises a plastic coating.

7. (Original) Method for producing a container having a mouth opening defined by the upper part of the peripheral wall and a membrane lid arranged with an attachment zone on the edge of the mouth opening for closing the container, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

providing a container with a bottom and a peripheral wall;
providing a first plastic onto the edge of the mouth opening, defined by the peripheral wall, wherein the first plastic substantially absorbs the energy of a laser beam;

providing a membrane lid having an attachment zone for attachment to the edge of the mouth opening, wherein the attachment zone of the membrane lid consists over its thickness of a second plastic, which is substantially transparent for the laser beam;

arranging the membrane lid onto the edge of the mouth opening and guiding the laser beam along and through the attachment zone onto the first plastic, such that the energy of the laser beam is dissipated in the first plastic and the generated heat causes the first plastic and the second plastic to fuse.

8. (Original) Method according to claim 7, wherein the container is a sheet metal container.

9. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 7 or 8, comprising the step of controlling the dissipation of the energy along the attachment zone.

10. (Original) Method according to claim 9, wherein the dissipation is controlled by controlling the contact time between the laser beam and the membrane lid.

11. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 9 or 10, comprising the step of guiding the laser beam along the contours of the attachment zone and controlling the travel speed of the laser beam in order to provide fusion areas of different dimensions.

12. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 9 ~~any claim 9-11~~, wherein dissipation is controlled by controlling the focus of the laser beam.

13. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 9 ~~any claim 9-12~~, wherein the dissipation is controlled by setting the absorption property of the first plastic.

14. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 9 ~~any claim 9-13~~, wherein the dissipation is controlled by setting the transmission property of the membrane layers.

15. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 9 ~~any claim 9-14~~, wherein the dissipation is controlled by controlling the intensity characteristic of the laser beam.

16. (New) A container, comprising:

- a horizontal container bottom;
- a vertical container wall extending from and attached to the horizontal container bottom at a first end of the wall and forming a container mouth opening in the form of a ring at a second end of the wall;
- a circular attachment zone component connected to the ring on an outer circumference of the circular attachment zone component and extending into the container mouth with an inner circumference of the circular attachment zone component, the circular attachment zone component comprising a circular planar surface;
- a circular polymeric connecting layer fused to the circular planar surface; and
- a transparent lid, fused to the circular connecting layer sealing the container.

17 (New) The container of claim 16, further comprising:

- a metal layer detachably connected to the transparent lid, the metal layer blocking light from entering the container.

18. (New) The container of claim 17, further comprising:

- a tab component extending from the metal layer and integral width of the metal layer.

19. (New) Container comprising a mouth opening and a membrane lid arranged with an attachment zone on the edge of the mouth opening for closing the container, the membrane lid consists at the attachment zone over its thickness of plastic, wherein a center zone surrounded by the attachment zone comprises a metal layer, wherein the bottom and peripheral wall are sheet metal, characterized in that the edge of the mouth opening comprises a plastic coating and the attachment zone of the membrane lid is fused to the edge of the mouth opening.

20. (New) Method for producing a sheet metal container having a mouth opening defined by the upper part of the peripheral wall and a membrane lid arranged with an attachment zone on the edge of the mouth opening for closing the container, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

providing a first plastic coating onto the edge of the mouth opening, defined by the peripheral wall, wherein the first plastic substantially absorbs the energy of a laser beam;

providing a membrane lid having an attachment zone for attachment to the edge of the mouth opening, wherein the attachment zone of the membrane lid consists over its thickness of a second plastic, which is substantially transparent for the laser beam;

arranging the membrane lid onto the edge of the mouth opening and guiding the laser beam along and through the attachment zone onto the first plastic, such that the energy of the laser beam is dissipated in the first plastic and the generated heat causes the first plastic and the second plastic to fuse.